

- B2
- A POINT 1 = 3 Cu, 1.0 Mg
 - B POINT 2 = 4.28 Cu, 1.0 Mg
 - C POINT 3 = 3.7 Cu, 2 Mg
 - D POINT 4 = 3 Cu, 2 Mg
 - A and back to POINT 1.

B3

Please add Claims 26 and 27 as follows:

-- 26. The aluminum alloy of Claim 1, wherein said lithium content comprises a maximum of 0.8 wt %.

27. The aluminum alloy of Claim 2, wherein said lithium content comprises a maximum of 0.8 wt % . --

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment.

Upon entry of this Amendment, Claims 1-8, 12, 16-22, 26 and 27 will be pending in the application.

By the present Amendment, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the aluminum alloy consists essentially of from about 3 to about 4.5 weight percent copper, from about 1.0 to about 2 weight percent magnesium and from about 0.01 to about 0.99 weight percent lithium, wherein the copper, magnesium and lithium are present in the aluminum alloy in the form of a solid solution, and the amounts of copper and magnesium correspond to the formula $Cu^{(-3/5.4)}(Mg-6)+1.5$. Basis for the amended claim language is provided in the specification, for example, at page 9, lines 3 and 4.

Claim 12 has been amended to more clearly define the compositional boundaries of Cu and Mg in the recited aluminum alloy. Basis for the recited Cu and Mg levels is provided in the specification, for example, in Fig. 1A.

Newly added dependent Claims 26 and 27 recite maximum lithium amounts of 0.8 weight percent. Basis for this recitation is provided in the specification, for example, at page 4, lines 7-10 and page 10, line 19.

In the Office Action dated September 20, 2000, the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over any of the following references: Pickens et al.